



San Antonio Police Department

Office of the Chief * Police Media Services * 214 W. Nueva St. * San Antonio, Texas 78207
Office (210) 207-7579 * Fax (210) 207-7567 * Dispatcher (210) 207-7484



Contact: Sgt. Gabriel Trevino

Date: September 3, 2003

Release No. 03-111

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICER -INVOLVED SHOOTING

On 09-03-03, at approximately 12:21pm, San Antonio Police Vice Detectives were in the area of the 3300 Blk. of Broadway conducting a "Prostitution Sting Operation". A surveillance vehicle was set up in the King's Palace Restaurant parking lot with a Vice Officer sitting in the rear compartment of the vehicle. As the Vice Officer was sitting in the rear, he heard the vehicle's alarm go off and saw two suspects breaking into the passenger compartment of the surveillance vehicle. That Officer quickly radioed for assistance, but before additional Officers could arrive, the suspects fled in a suspect vehicle. The description of that suspect vehicle was broadcasted for all Officers in the area and was subsequently spotted by another Vice Officer, as the suspect vehicle traveled E/B on Natalen St. As the vehicle traveled E/B, Vice Detective Scott Poth, a 17-year veteran, blocked the street with his unmarked police vehicle. Det. Poth and his passenger partner exited their car and drew their service weapons, while ordering the driver of the suspect car to stop. Instead, the suspect driver placed his car in reverse and struck the Vice Detective, who was directly behind the suspect. After striking the Vice Detective's car, the Suspect placed his car in drive and drove towards Det. Poth. Det. Poth said he feared for his safety and fired one time from his service weapon. The suspect driver was hit one time, but continued several blocks before striking a house in the 200 Blk. of Natalen St.

After striking the house, the passenger in the suspect car fled on foot, but was captured by other Vice Detectives. The driver of the suspect vehicle was transported to BAMC, where he was pronounced dead. A large amount of property was discovered in the suspect vehicle, including several items taken from the original burglarized surveillance vehicle.

The San Antonio Police Department's Shooting Team will be conducting the investigation and will forward its findings to the Chief of Police and The Bexar County District Attorney's Office. Detective Poth will be placed on Administrative Leave/Duty, which is standard in all officer-involved shootings. The identity of the deceased suspect will be withheld pending the notification of next of kin. The identity of the second suspect in custody will be withheld pending formal charges filed.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE